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1741: DE NOYAN'S GRIEVANCES; IMPROVED CONDITIONS AT
DETROIT; ENGLISH INFLUENCE; BEAUHARNOIS'S VISIT;
REMOVAL OF HURONS

[Letter of De Noyan to the French Minister. Source same as preceding document, but fol. 279.]

DETROIT, August 24, 1741.

MONSEIGNEUR—I have not received your grace's orders for two years. Monsieur The Marquis De Beauharnois wrote me last autumn that he would Send Them to me by The first opportunity. Nevertheless, Monseigneur, I have not Had The Happiness of their Having Reached me.

Your Grace has not honored me with a sufficiently ample Commission to allow of my acting On my own Initiative [and] succeeding in The Settlement Of Detroit. Monsieur The General—who In nowise Divests himself of his rights in my favor and who, on the contrary, governs This Post although he is very Distant—sometimes Blames me owing To not having seen Things and to not Knowing my reasons And The Principles On Which I act, And he Frequently deprives me of The means of succeeding Without Wishing It And Without Thinking he is doing So.

He has not so fully yielded to me The advantages Of this Post as not frequently to diminish Them by granting *Free of charge* demi-Licenses that I would have been Pleased to grant myself. It also often happens, Monsieigneur, that he favors Persons who Need least.

It would, therefore, be desirable, Monseigneur (I venture to say For The advantage of this Country), that Your Grace should Leave The disposal of the Licenses Entirely to me, And that in all matters Not of Exceeding Importance, I be Permitted to act Without Fear of Being Exposed To the annoyance that may be Caused me by The Jealous Envy of my Enemies near Monsieur The General. I am attacked all the More boldly, Monseigneur, because it is Seen that I am Not decorated with The Mark of honor that distinguishes An Officer.

It Will be Necessary if I am To Impress with respect all